

1           **VI. CLAIMS**

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3           What is claimed is:

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5           1.     A container and coupling system for transferring granulated  
6           materials, comprising:

7  
8           A)     first container means having first and second ends, opposite to  
9                   each other, said first end defining a neck and said second end  
10                  defining a base member that further includes at lest one  
11                  through opening and cable means cooperatively passing  
12                  through said at least one through opening for supporting said  
13                  first container means in an inverted position;

14  
15          B)     nozzle means sealingly and removably mounted to said first  
16                  end, said nozzle means having a top wall with a  
17                  perpendicularly extending peripheral skirt, said top member  
18                  further including a raised tubular portion having a through  
19                  aperture and the interior of said tubular portion having a  
20                  substantially frustroconical shape to facilitate the evacuation of  
21                  said granular material when said first container means is in  
22                  said inverted position and said nozzle means is mounted  
23                  thereto;

24  
25          C)     flexible conduit means having third and fourth ends, said third  
26                  end cooperatively and removably receives said tubular raised  
27                  portion;

1 D) regulating valve means having an inlet and an outlet, said inlet  
2 being removably connected to said fourth end for receiving the  
3 granular material that has entered through said third end and  
4 said outlet dispensing said granular material, and said valve  
5 regulating means further including actuating means that are  
6 actuated externally from said conduit means; and  
7

8 E) second container means including an opening connected to the  
9 interior of said second container means and removably  
10 receiving said outlet, and further having a cap assembly  
11 removably mounted to said second container means covering  
12 said opening.  
13

14 2. The container and coupling system for transferring granulated  
15 materials set forth in claim 1, wherein said regulating valve means  
16 includes means for keeping said regulating valve means in closed  
17 disposition and selectively opened upon the application of a force of  
18 a predetermined magnitude to said actuating means.  
19

20 3. The container set forth and coupling system for transferring  
21 granulated material set forth in claim 2 wherein said means for  
22 keeping said regulating valve means in the closed position includes a  
23 spring member.  
24

25 4. The container set forth and coupling system for transferring  
26 granulated material set forth in claim 3 wherein said first container  
27 means has a substantially depressed area and further including  
28 handle means extending perpendicularly outwardly from said

1 depressed area so that the manipulation of said first container means  
2 is facilitated.

3  
4 5. The container set forth and coupling system for transferring  
5 granulated material set forth in claim 4 wherein said first container  
6 means has a substantially spherical shape.